

A new England phrase, to express a kind solicitor of subscriptions for effect as -
Succentors.

This letter is private as
you will see: -
But I have no
objection to Mr
Webb's seeing it,
or Mrs Wigham.

My cordial regards
to them.
Your loving
friend
W. M. Chapman

P.S. I think the
said is at hand -
a happy one.
April 1862

My dear Mary

When last I wrote to you, the way had not opened for any action. I am you know bowed from the beginning, never to ask help in this cause, from any friend however dear & honoured, merely as a matter of course, - to keep up useless machinery, - to maintain an invalided service, - or any of the thousand & one things that this world so often finds pressed upon its attention by them that begin life with a generous renunciation, & end it as a set of degenerate "thankye Ma'ams."

I watch, as they that watch for the morning, for better than ourselves to arise to finish our work. Better than ourselves to help ^{were not to be had as} the facts of the case testify, without blame or praise. I would not write to you this year as to the matter of continued coopera-

We might ask that not get it become we after amiss. We might ask it so as to answer & not restrain vengeance. We might make insurrection instead of revolution. We might get a fresh petition to Congress and so we should have had the thinking for ourselves.

...tion, till it was certain that we could do a better work than ever till next May as a Society; not only certain, to us, but demonstrable to you, whose long devotedness makes us so responsible to you that without taking you all into our calculations for the future, we can do nothing.

You have seen by the papers how doubtful some things look. - the course of public men, for example; - & the fortune of war, that we have to do, must ever be some thing that concerns the public heart; - & then public men have choice & the public weal is secure.

The measure we are about to adopt is one that fuels every ambition, of principle, probability of success, good collateral results & happy consequences in any event, even if it be unsuccessful as a measure. We are going to start a Memorial which shall embody the nation in demand of proclamation of Universal freedom. We have, by our agencies by our private correspondence,

as well as by observation of the
times, ascertained what the points
of the case are as the public mind
now apprehends it, & what the ground
to be covered, & what the statements to
be made as incentives ^{to the administration,} & what the
obstacles to be removed from the
popular mind, & what the extent
of the necessities of the case & what
the means of removing them.

Our Am. A. S. Soc (see its
platform or Constitutional agree-
ment in action, of 1833, —) is
not a Disunion Society, ^{of} Constitution.
It has always had members who
vote & act in political life. But
when we ascertained that ~~so~~ to vote &
act whiled men round in a vicious
circle, allowing no advance we
adopted the policy of "no union with
Slaveholders" which alone was right, &
which alone could show up a
free people at the North to resist
the aggressions of Slavery. That
work has been done thoroughly,
to a certain extent. We were too
few to do it so thoroughly as to make
emancipation practicable by moral
power alone, as we should do:
— It was, probably, too late when

we began to hope that. I think
Lincoln never ~~did~~ hope it; he
only hoped to save the North. I was
more sanguine & trusted in the com-
mon sense of the nation. The
mad Ambition of Jefferson Davis & soon
with their Party surpassed all my
calculations. By the firing on
the National flag at Fort Sumter
they dispensed the hope of a blood-
less moral revolution, - but the
act found virtue enough at the
North to bring it up to the lower
level of physical resistance & that
if persisted in, of which there is
every prospect, makes Union
in Freedom once more possible
& suggests a change in our
policy in some cases, for the sake
of a more thorough adherence
to our principles & our measures.
While, for example, we are actually
at war with the Slave power,
we feel, - not indeed that we can
veto, or act with the government
any more ^{in a general way} than we could two
years ago: but we sustain it